

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-54. ~~(Canceled)~~

55. ~~(New)~~ A stream distribution system comprising a stream distribution server, a plurality of terminal devices each having an information reproduction function, and a local area network connecting the stream distribution server and the terminal devices, wherein the stream distribution server comprises:

a receptor for receiving stream data transmitted through an external network;

a selector for selecting a predetermined unit of information from the stream data received by the receptor according to a distribution request received from each of the terminal devices and for further selectively outputting the information to a transmitter and/or a file I/O controller according to the distribution request;

the transmitter for selectively transmitting the information received from the selector to each of the terminal devices according to data transmission band availability within the local area network; and

the file I/O controller for controlling a file device and for outputting the information received from the selector to the file device; wherein

when a transmission band allocated to one of the terminal devices requesting the information is limited, the information received from the selector by the transmitter is adjusted to correspond to the limited transmission band and the adjusted information is transmitted to the terminal device, while the information received from the selector by the file I/O controller is unadjusted and stored in the file device.

56. ~~(New)~~ The system of Claim 55, wherein:

the external network comprises a broadcasting network and a communication network;

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the stream data transmitted through the broadcasting network and the communication network comprise information arranged in packets, and a packet identifier is added to each packet; and

the selector mixes the stream data received through the broadcasting network and the communication network.

57. (New) The system of Claim 55, wherein:

the stream data transmitted through the external network comprise information arranged in packets, and a packet identifier is added to each packet; and

the selector selects the predetermined unit of information from the stream data by referring to the packet identifiers.

58. (New) The system of Claim 55, wherein the transmitter further comprises a filter for adjusting a transmission band of the information to be sent to each of the terminal devices.

59. (New) The system of Claim 55, wherein the selector outputs the stream data to the file I/O controller upon receiving a recording request from one of the terminal devices.

60. (New) A stream distribution system comprising a stream distribution server, a plurality of terminal devices each having an information reproduction function, and a local area network connecting the stream distribution server and the terminal devices, wherein the stream distribution server comprises:

at least two receptors each for receiving stream data transmitted through a broadcasting network and stream data transmitted through a communication network, the stream data comprising information arranged in packets, and a packet identifier being added to each packet;

a selector for selecting a predetermined unit of information from the stream data received by the receptors according to a distribution request received from each of the terminal devices,

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for mixing the information received from the broadcasting network and the communication network, and for branching the information to a transmitter and a file I/O controller;

the transmitter comprising a filter for adjusting a transmission band of the information to be sent to each of the terminal devices so as to selectively transmit the information received from the selector to each of the terminal devices according to data transmission band availability within the local area network; and

the file I/O controller for controlling a file device and for outputting the information received from the selector to the file device; wherein

when a transmission band allocated to one of the terminal devices requesting the information is limited, the information received from the selector by the transmitter is adjusted to correspond to the limited transmission band and the adjusted information is transmitted to the terminal device, while the information received from the selector by the file I/O controller is unadjusted and stored in the file device.

61. (New) The system of Claim 60, wherein the file I/O controller outputs the information stored in the file device back to the selector according to a storage data reading request received from one of the terminal devices.

62. (New) The system of Claim 60, wherein:

the filter comprises a priority table correlating each of the packet identifiers with a packet priority; and

the filter refers to the priority table to determine the packet priority of each of the packets and adjusts a transmission band of the information to be sent to each of the terminal devices by performing packet filtering based on the packet priority.

63. (New) The system of Claim 62, further comprising a band limitation setter for setting a limitation on the data transmission band allocated to each of the terminal devices

according to the use state of the local area network and for constructing the priority table in the filter; wherein

the transmitter selectively transmits the information received from the selector to each of the terminal devices according to the limitation set on the data transmission band allocated to each of the terminal devices and by using the filter.

64. (New) The system of Claim 63, wherein the band limitation setter controls the file I/O controller and the transmitter, and upon receiving a storage data reading request from one of the terminal devices, causes the transmission of the stream data stored in the file device via the selector and the transmitter to the terminal device.

65. (New) The system of Claim 63, wherein the band limitation setter, upon receiving a distribution request from one of the terminal devices, changes a branch setting of the selector, and the selector outputs the stream data received from the receptors to the transmitter.

66. (New) The system of Claim 63, wherein the band limitation setter, upon receiving a recording request from one of the terminal devices, changes a branch setting of the selector, and the selector outputs the stream data received from the receptors to the file I/O controller.

67. (New) The system of Claim 63, wherein the selector further comprises means for setting a flag to control transmission of the stream data to each of the terminal devices, the means turning off the flag upon receiving a pause request from one of the terminal devices to pause the transmission of the stream data to the terminal device, and turning on the flag upon receiving a resume request from the terminal device to resume the transmission of the stream data to the terminal device.

68. (New) The system of Claim 67, wherein the band limitation setter comprises means for controlling the selector and the file I/O controller upon receiving a pause request or a

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resume request from one of the terminal devices, the means upon receiving a pause request interrupting transmission of the stream data to the terminal device and storing the stream data instead in the file device via the file I/O controller, and the means upon receiving a resume request reading the stream data stored in the file device based on a first-in-first-out processing in parallel with continuously storing the stream data in the file device and transmitting the read-out stream data to the terminal device via the selector and the transmitter.

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